Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of processing analog color signals, the method comprising:

analog preprocessing ~~(2, 3)~~ sensor output signals to obtain analog preprocessed signals that cause a reduced amount of digital quantization errors;

converting ~~(5)~~ the analog preprocessed signals into digital signals;

reconstructing ~~(7)~~ a first basic color signal ~~(R)~~ R, a second basic color signal ~~(G)~~ G, and a third basic color signal ~~(B)~~ B from the digital signals; and

correcting ~~(9)~~ the basic color signals to obtain standardized signals, the correcting step comprising multiplication of a three color signal matrix containing the first, second and third basic color signals ~~(R, G, B)~~ R, G, B by a correction matrix containing *RGB* matrix coefficients that depend on the analog preprocessing step ~~(2, 3)~~.

Claim 2 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the analog preprocessing step includes a white balance adjustment.

Claim 3 (original): A method according to claim 2, wherein the coefficients of the correction matrix depend on the analog preprocessing step in that correction matrix coefficients a_{xy} are replaced by coefficients b_{xy} with

$$b_{11} = a_{11}$$
$$b_{12} = a_{12} \times awbR$$
$$b_{13} = a_{13}$$
$$b_{21} = a_{21} / awbR$$
$$b_{22} = a_{22}$$
$$b_{23} = a_{23} / awbB$$
$$b_{31} = a_{31}$$
$$b_{32} = a_{32} \times awbB$$
$$b_{33} = a_{33}$$

wherein awbR equals a total contribution of Red divided by a total contribution of Green and awbB equals a total contribution of Blue divided by a total contribution of Green wherein the total contributions of Red, Green and Blue are determined from the standardized signals.

Claim 4 (original): A method according to claim 1, wherein the sensor output signals comprise first, second and third analog color signals R_a, G_a and B_a, and wherein said analog preprocessing step includes respectively multiplying the color signals by

cR
cG
cB

where $cR = \sum R$ if $\sum R > 1$, else $cR = 1$;

where $cG = \sum G$ if $\sum G > 1$ else $cG = 1$;

where $cB = \sum B$ if $\sum B > 1$ else $cB = 1$, with

$\sum R = a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{13}$
$\sum G = a_{21} + a_{22} + a_{23}$
$\sum B = a_{31} + a_{32} + a_{33}$

with a_{xy} being the coefficients the correction matrix would have without the analog preprocessing step, and wherein the coefficients a_{xy} of the correction matrix are replaced by coefficients b_{xy} with

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cR$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 1;

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cG$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 2;

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cB$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 3.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A device for processing analog

color signals, the device comprising:

means for analog preprocessing ~~(2, 3)~~ sensor output signals to obtain analog preprocessed signals that cause a reduced amount of digital quantization errors;

means for converting ~~(5)~~ the analog preprocessed signals into digital signals;

means for reconstructing ~~(7)~~ a first basic color signal ~~(R)~~ R, a second basic color signal ~~(G)~~ G, and a third basic color signal ~~(B)~~ B from the digital signals; and

means for correcting ~~(9)~~ the basic color signals to obtain standardized signals, the correcting means comprising means for multiplying a three color signal matrix containing the first, second and third basic color signals ~~(R, G, B)~~ R, G, B by a correction matrix containing *RGB* matrix coefficients that depend on the analog preprocessing means ~~(2, 3)~~.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A device according to claim 5, wherein the analog preprocessing means ~~(3)~~ includes means ~~(3)~~ for carrying out a white balance adjustment.

Claim 7 (original): A method according to claim 6, wherein the

coefficients of the correction matrix depend on the analog preprocessing step in that correction matrix coefficients a_{xy} are replaced by coefficients b_{xy} with

$$
\begin{aligned}
b_{11} &= a_{11} \\
b_{12} &= a_{12} \times awbR \\
b_{13} &= a_{13} \\
b_{21} &= a_{21} / awbR \\
b_{22} &= a_{22} \\
b_{23} &= a_{23} / awbB \\
b_{31} &= a_{31} \\
b_{32} &= a_{32} \times awbB \\
b_{33} &= a_{33}
\end{aligned}
\qquad (6)
$$

wherein awbR equals a total contribution of Red divided by a total contribution of Green and awbB equals a total contribution of Blue divided by a total contribution of Green wherein the total contributions of Red, Green and Blue are determined from the standardized signals.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A device according to claim 5, wherein the sensor output signals comprise first, second and third analog color signals R_a, G_a and B_a, and wherein said analog preprocessing means ~~(2)~~ includes means ~~(2)~~ for respectively multiplying the color signals by

cR
cG
cB

where $cR = \sum R$ if $\sum R > 1$, else $cR = 1$;

where $cG = \sum G$ if $\sum G > 1$ else $cG = 1$;

where $cB = \sum B$ if $\sum B > 1$ else $cB = 1$, with

$\sum R = a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{13}$
$\sum G = a_{21} + a_{22} + a_{23}$
$\sum B = a_{31} + a_{32} + a_{33}$

with a_{xy} being the coefficients the correction matrix would have without the analog preprocessing step, and wherein the coefficients a_{xy} of the correction matrix are replaced by coefficients b_{xy} with

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cR$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 1;

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cG$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 2;

$b_{xy} = a_{xy}/cB$ for x = 1,2,3 and y = 3.

Claim 9 (original): A color camera comprising:

a sensor for generating sensor output signals; and

a device as claimed in claim 5.